Special Issue

Sheffield TIMES

Watch for the May/June issue coming soon!

Community News for Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA SECOND GENERATION Special Supplement, April 2005

THIS ISSUE IS A COMMUNITY SERVICE FROM THE *SHEFFIELD TIMES*

Each year we publish a special issue to present to the town's voters the complete text of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant that will be the subject of the Annual Town Meeting. This year the meeting is May 2 at 7pm at Mt. Everett Regional High School. All Sheffield residents are welcome at the meeting, but only registered voters can vote.

Like many communities across Berkshire County and the state, this year Sheffield has a right to farm by-law on the Town Meeting warrant. It is a proposed general Town by-law, rather than zoning, and it affirms and reinforces state laws and policies and provides notice that Sheffield supports agriculture, farmland and the business of farming. In concert with goals expressed in town economic development, open space and comprehensive plans, two-dozen farmers and interested residents spent several months this winter and spring reviewing state and other town model by-laws, to tailor one for Sheffield. There will be a public information meeting April 28, 7pm at Town Hall. The March/April issue of the *Sheffield Times* had more on the bylaw (p.3) and on the school budget (p.8).

The Sheffield Times also presents "Candidates-at-a-Glance" starting on page 4, profiling all candidates running for town office in the Town Election that will be held on May 9, 9am-7pm at the Town Hall.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Town Of Sheffield
Commonwealth Of Massachusetts
Berkshire, Ss

To the Constables of the Town of Sheffield in said County of Berkshire, Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the auditorium of the Mt. Everett Regional High School on Berkshire School Road in Sheffield on **Monday, May 2, 2005, at 7:00 PM** for the following purposes:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, such sums of money as listed below, and as may be amended, necessary to defray the expenses of the town for Fiscal Year 2006, or take any other action relative thereto.

Moderator	$150
Selectmen's Office	$132,986
Board Of Assessors	$90,255
Treasurer/collector	$119,650
Town Clerk	$44,064
Elections & Registration	$14,960
Conservation Commission	$5,425
Planning Board	$3,550
Industrial Development Comm.	$1,000
Zoning Board Of Appeals	$2,000
Town Buildings And Properties	$73,820
Town Report & Communications	$5,000
Legal Services	$13,000
Dispatch Services	$22,500
Police Department	$319,650
Fire Department	$32,755
Inspectional Services	$35,236
Fire Hydrants	$7,942
Dog Officer	$5,700
Highway Department	$458,563
Streetlights	$7,500
Board Of Health	$16,334
Visiting Nurse Association	$3,000
Council On Aging	$41,485
Veterans Benefits	$1,000
Library	$115,038
Historical Commission	$100
Memorial Day	$750
American Legion	$500
Care Of Soldiers' Graves	$1,188
Ashley Falls Historic District Comm	$150
Interest On Loans	$1
Berkshire County Retirement	$110,275
Worker's Compensation	$8,100
Unemployment Compensation Fund	$1
Group Health (32b) Insurance	$220,000
Employer Medicare	$11,813
Financial Audit	$12,000
Insurance & Bonding	$57,780

ARTICLE 2: To see if the town will vote to fix the compensation of the following elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2006, as required by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws: Moderator $150; Selectman, Chairman $2,100; Selectmen, two members at $1,800 each, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money for the disposal and management of solid waste, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2006 and vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, $4,357,372 to pay the town's assessed share of that budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2006 and vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, $288,470 to pay the town's assessed share of that budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $800 to pay the stipend for Sheffield's committee members of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2006, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $56,400 to pay for vocational education in Fiscal Year 2006, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health to employ any of its members, including members who also serve on the Board of Selectmen, as Title 5 Witnesses for Septic Systems Evaluation Tests and Inspections at a rate of $35.00 per inspection, and/or Sanitation (Title 5) Inspector at an annual salary of $500 for Fiscal Year 2006, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from Overlay Surplus, and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws, known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to sell, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, any parcel or parcels of real estate which have been or may be acquired through the foreclosure of tax title, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, $33,053 to pay principal and interest on the bonded indebtedness authorized by Town Meeting vote of January 30, 1995, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $17,000 to purchase and/or repair various equipment for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $750 to the Emergency Response Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $25,000 to purchase a new police cruiser and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade-in or sell the town's 1999 police cruiser, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $5,054 to purchase a computer server for the Police Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to replace the fence at the Barnard Cemetery, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $19,000 to install a chain link fence and gate at the Highway Garage, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Fire Truck Stabilization Fund and to transfer $100,000 from available funds into such Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the town will vote to petition the legislature, under the provisions of Section 8, Article 89 of the Amendments to the Constitution (Home Rule), to enact the following, or take any other action relative thereto: Nothwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Sheffield may appoint two associate members of the Conservation Commission for terms not to exceed one year. The Chairman of the Conservation Commission may designate any such associate member to sit on the Commission in the absence of a quorum for any reason, including a conflict of interest, or in

the event of a vacancy on the Commission until said vacancy is filled in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C of the General Laws.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the town will vote to transfer from available funds, $25,337 to extend three phase overhead electric primary along East Stahl Road to the Sheffield Business Park and to install three-phase electric underground primary distribution system within the Sheffield Business Park, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the town will vote to accept as a Public Way the roadway in the Sheffield Business Park, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen, and as shown on a plan of land entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan prepared for Sheffield Business Park in Sheffield Massachusetts", prepared by Kelly, Granger, Parsons and Associates, Inc., Great Barrington, Mass., dated July, 1995, said plan being on file in the office of the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the town will approve the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility Municipal Agreement with Recycle America Alliance and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the receipt and processing of the town's recyclable materials at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility for ten years, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, $12,000 for improvements to a staircase at the Bushnell-Sage Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the town will vote to amend the Town of Sheffield By-Laws by adding the following new by-law:

SHEFFIELD RIGHT TO FARM BY-LAW

Section 1: Purpose and Intent

The Town of Sheffield finds that farming is an essential and valued activity, which provides fresh food, clean-air, economic diversity, local employment, and open spaces to all the citizens of our town. This by-law is intended to encourage the pursuit of agriculture, promote agricultural-based economic and employment opportunities, and protect farmland within the Town of Sheffield. The purpose is to allow agricultural uses and related activities to function in harmony with the community, town agencies and others. This By-law shall apply to all jurisdictional areas within the Town.

This by-law re-states with emphasis the Right to Farm accorded to all citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as stated under the Constitution and General Laws and Regulations including but not limited to Article 97, of the Constitution, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 3, Paragraph 1; (The Zoning Act) Chapter 90, Section 9, Chapter 111, Section 125A and Chapter 128 Section 1A.

Section 2: Definitions

"Farm" shall include any parcel or contiguous parcels of land, or water bodies used for the primary purpose of commercial agriculture, or accessory thereto. Commercial shall be defined by the minimum acreage requirement or the gross sales and program payment requirement specified in Massachusetts General Law Chapter 61A Section 3, as amended. "Farm" shall include youth related agricultural activities, such as but not limited to 4-H, irrespective of minimum acreage or gross sales and program payment requirements.

"Farming" or "agriculture" shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- farming in all its branches and the cultivation and tillage of the soil;
- dairying;
- orchards;
- production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any agri cultural, aquacultural, floricultural, viticultural, or horticultural commodities;
- growing and harvesting of forest products upon forest land, and any other forestry or lumbering operations;
- raising of livestock including horses;
- keeping of horses as a commercial enterprise; and
- keeping and raising of poultry, sheep, goats, swine, cattle, ratites (such as emus, ostriches and rheas) and camelids (such as llamas and camels), and other domesticated animals for food and other agricultural purposes, including bees and fur-bearing animals.

"Farming" shall encompass activities including, but not limited to, the following:

- operation and transportation of slow-moving farm equip ment over roads within the Town;
- control of pests, including, but not limited to, insects , weeds, predators and disease organism of plants and animals;
- application of manure, fertilizers and pesticides;
- conducting agriculture-related educational and farm-based recreational activities, including agri-tourism, provided that the activities are related to marketing the agricultural output or services of the farm;
- processing and packaging of the agricultural output of the farm and the operation of a farmer's market or farm stand including signage thereto;
- maintenance, repair, or storage of seasonal equipment, or apparatus owned or leased by the farm owner or manager use expressly for the purpose of propagation, processing, management, or sale of the agricultural products;
- on-farm relocation of earth and the clearing of ground for farming operations;
- revitalizing drainage or irrigation ditches, picking stone, erecting, repairing or maintaining fences, and clearing, rejuve nation and maintaining pastures; and
- herding of livestock from area to area, including along roads.

Section 3: Right To Farm Declaration

The Right to Farm is hereby recognized to exist within the Town of Sheffield. The above-described agricultural activities may occur on holidays, weekdays, and weekends by night or day and shall include the attendant incidental noise, odors, dust, and fumes associated with normally accepted agricultural practices. It is hereby determined that whatever impact may be caused to others through the normal practice of agriculture

is more than offset by the benefits of farming to the neighborhood, community, and society in general. The benefits and protections of this By-law are intended to apply exclusively to those agricultural and farming operations and activities conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural practices. For any agricultural practice, in determining the reasonableness of the time, place, and methodology of such practice, consideration shall be given to both traditional customs and procedures as well as to new practices and innovations. Moreover, nothing in this Right to Farm By-law shall be deemed as acquiring any interest in land. The protections contained in this by-law do not replace any applicable zoning or legal restrictions associated with agricultural operations.

Section 4 Notification to Real Estate Buyers
In order to allow prospective purchasers to make informed decisions prior to a real estate transaction and to promote harmony between farmers and their new neighbors after a transaction, the Town of Sheffield requests selling landholders and/or their agents (and assigns) provide written notice to prospective purchasers substantially as follows:

"It is the policy of the Town of Sheffield to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food, and other agricultural products, and also for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers that the property they are about to acquire lies within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include, but are not limited to, activities that cause noise, dust and odors. Purchasing, and henceforth occupying land within Sheffield means that one should expect and accept such conditions as a norm and necessary aspect of living in Sheffield."

Written notification may occur in one of several ways including but not limited to a disclosure form, addendum to a Purchase and Sale Agreement and should include an acknowledgement by the buyer that they have received notification.

Within 30 days after this by-law becomes effective the Board of Selectmen shall make available for use by selling landowners or their agents (and assigns) copies of example written notifications.

Within 30 days after this by-law becomes effective the Board of Selectmen shall prominently place in the town hall the above disclosure.

Within 30 days after this by-law becomes effective the Tax Collector shall include a copy of the above disclosure with responses to requests for Municipal Lien Certificates.

Section 5 Resolution of Complaints
Any person having a complaint about a farm activity or practice is encouraged to seek an amicable resolution to the complaint, including talking directly with the involved farmer. Such person may, notwithstanding pursuing any other available remedy, request resolution assistance from the Board of Selectmen.

Such a request does not suspend the time within which to pursue any other available remedies. The Board of Selectmen may appoint a panel of at least three individuals, to include representation from farmers, or refer such request to a Sheffield Agricultural Commission, should one exist. Said panel or Agricultural Commission shall review and facilitate the resolution of such a request, and report its recommendations to the Board of Selectmen within the agreed upon time frame.

Section 6 Severability Clause
If any part of this By-law is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this By-law. The Town of Sheffield hereby declares the provisions of this By-law to be severable.

You are also directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town elections, to meet in the Town Hall on Depot Street in Sheffield on Monday, May 9, 2005, at 9:00 AM then and there to bring in their votes for the election of the following Town Officers:
One Moderator for one year
One Selectman for three years
One Library Trustee for three years
One Planning Board member for three years

All of said officers to be voted for on the official ballots furnished at the polls. The polls will be opened at 9:00 AM and closed at 7:00 PM.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy in seven public places in the Town, not less than seven days before the date of said meeting.

Hereof Fail not, and make return of this Warrant to the Town Clerk, with your doings thereon, at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the Seal of the Town of Sheffield this fourth day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Five.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Richard J. Kirchner Janet G. Stanton David D. Macy

In obedience to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield qualified to vote in Town or State Elections and Primaries by posting seven attested copies of said warrant in seven public places at least seven days prior to said election.

Candidates-at-a-Glance

Board of Selectmen

Term: *Three Years*
Candidates: *Two—Julie Markham Hannum and Richard Kirchner*
Seats open: *One*

Julie Markham Hannum

Julie Markham Hannum is running for a first term on the Board of Selectmen.

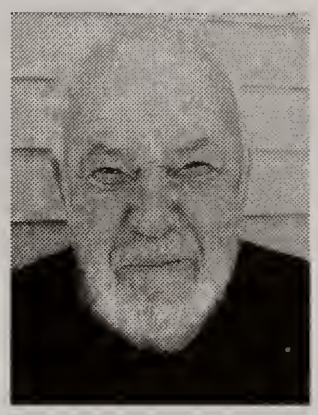
Julie is a life-long resident of Sheffield. She is married to Steve Hannum, and they have two children, Philip, a junior at Mt. Everett High School, and Robin, a graduate of Mt. Everett and a senior at the University of Massachusetts. Julie graduated from Westfield State College and received a Masters in Education from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. She is employed as a Tech Prep Program Director for Berkshire Community College and the Massachusetts Department of Education, developing partnerships among county high schools, colleges and business and industry that promote student success.

Julie has long been active in the community. She served on the Bushnell-Sage Library Board for 13 years, 11 as its chair. Other responsibilities include the Sheffield Town Building Committee to renovate/reuse the library, Town Hall, and police station; Old Parish Church, where she is currently beginning a second term as moderator; the Board of Directors of the Sheffield Association; the Sheffield Grange and Berkshire South Pomona Grange, where she was a past Master; and the Berkshire Leadership Program.

Julie is registered as Unenrolled, and while she has very deep family Republican roots, she "has voted for many good Democrats over the years." She wants to run for the Board of Selectmen "because I have public service in my blood. My grandmother was Town Clerk for almost 20 years," and other relatives were active in the town. "Conversations at family gatherings included something about what was happening in town or with politics in general. I also realize that I live in a great place and want to give my service back to the town." She also mentions being inspired by an experience working with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission and the Berkshire Leadership Program, a 10-week program that focused on various issues that impact the Berkshires and how those issues interact with one another.

She would like to see the Board develop a town-wide technology plan that would address a computer-replacement schedule, the use of e-mail for appropriate town services and website development and maintenance. She believes such improvements would be a big boost for small business economic development and yet still allow the town to maintain its cherished rural character. She is eager to be involved with the Master Plan and implementation process, the development of a new senior center site and the Fire Department renovation and expansion. She looks forward to working with the leadership of the five towns of the regional school district to ensure the highest quality education possible for our children, while concurrently developing strategies that will address the town's fiscal constraints.

Richard Kirchner



Richard Kirchner, with the exception of one election in 1977, has served on the Board of Selectmen for 30 years.

Dick has been a resident of Sheffield for 56 years. He has been employed by the Board of Health as the Title 5 Sanitation Inspector since 1970. As an inspector he is responsible for the witnessing of septic system inspections and soil evaluations under Title 5.

Dick is also a member of the American Legion in Sheffield, the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Great Barrington and the Berkshire County Selectmen's Association.

Born in Pittsfield, Dick grew up in Egremont. After graduating from Searles High School and serving in the army from 1944 to 1946, he settled in Sheffield and married Margery Curtis. They have four adult children, two of whom currently live in Sheffield, and seven grandchildren. For many years Dick worked for Gilligan Brothers. Since 1988 he has been self-employed as a mason and handyman. He also monitors the parking lot for the Berkshire Bank in Great Barrington.

Dick is a registered Democrat. He is running for re-election because he is semi-retired and "has the time and energy to do what the job requires." He is able to check in at our municipal offices daily. He is grateful that we have "a smooth running town hall."

He is pleased that paving has begun on Berkshire School Rd. and that the Business Park has attracted several new companies. He is particularly concerned both with the lack of employment and affordable housing for people who grow up in Sheffield and want to stay and raise their families; he regrets the absence of a senior center; and he hopes that renovations for the Town Green can be completed soon.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

As a public service, the *Sheffield Times* provides brief profiles of each of the candidates running for town boards or offices.

Profiles are in alphabetical order by office, with candidates listed alphabetically. All positions are included regardless of whether the position is contested.

Candidates-at-a-Glance

Planning Board

Term: Three years
Candidates: Two: Jennifer R. Wilkinson and Rene C. Wood
Seats open: One

Jennifer Wilkinson

Jennifer R. Wilkinson is running for a first term on the Planning Board.

Jennifer was born in Great Barrington and lived in Housatonic and West Stockbridge until moving to Sheffield nine years ago. She is married to Wayne Wilkinson, who is in the building business, and they have two children, Hayley, 7, and Evan, 6, both of whom are students at Undermountain Elementary School.

Jennifer has a BS in Management from Keene State College in New Hampshire and a MAT in Early Childhood Education from Elms College in Chicopee, MA. She will be teaching first grade at Undermountain Elementary School for the rest of this school year, and if there is not a permanent opening, is planning to be a substitute teacher next fall.

Her husband, Wayne, is a member of the Sheffield Fire Department. Because of that responsibility, Jennifer has been drawn into the workings of our community.

She is registered as Unenrolled, with no specific party affiliation. She is running for office because she wants to be involved in shaping the growth of Sheffield. "I plan on being in Sheffield my whole life," she says. She is 35 years old, and believes it is important to have the younger generation involved in the planning process. Because of her husband's employment, she has familiarity with the zoning requirements for permits.

Jennifer supports the Master Plan. She believes those who were responsible for it worked hard, had good ideas and carried those ideas forward. She believes that it is important that the Board make decisions by "staying in line with the by-laws." She has deep concerns about the availability of land for Sheffield's next generation.

Sheffield TIMES

Community Newsletter for Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA

Issue Editors: Kathy Orlando & Andrea Scott; **Library Editor:** Peter Rowntree; **Design & Layout:**Cassie Lynch; **Advertising Sales:** Tara White; **Staff:** Sandy & Dale Alden, Rae Eastman, Fred Gordon, Gillian Hettinger, Mel Friedman, Ellen Rowntree, Judy Schumer, Ellen Weiss, Barbara West, John Wightman

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Rene Wood

Rene C. Wood has served on the Planning Board for three years and is running for a second term.

Rene and her husband, Dennis Sears, have been coming to Sheffield for 20 years. They bought property in 1991 and in 1998, when their house was completed, they became full time residents. Between them, she and Dennis have three grown children, 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandson. Rene is a native Californian and has a BA from San Francisco State University, an MBA from UCLA, and has just completed an MA in Social Sciences with an emphasis in Gerontology from Vermont College.

Rene has long been involved in the Sheffield community. She has been an active fundraiser for the Sheffield Historical Society and Christ Episcopal Church. She has volunteered with Old Parish Church, the Sheffield Land Trust, and Elder Services of Berkshire County. She was advertising manager for the Sheffield Times in its first years and a board member for the Sheffield Historical Society. From 2002 – 2004 she was secretary of the Planning Board and the alternate delegate to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. She was elected Board Chairman in May 2004. She is registered as Unenrolled.

Rene has really enjoyed her work on the Planning Board. "I put in more time than I want to admit," she says, "but it allows me to give back to the town I've chosen to be my home. My family has always supported public service and the positive difference each of us can make. I get to put my past experiences and organizational skills to work. When I take on a job, no matter what it is, I dedicate the time and energy needed to do the best I can." She believes the board works very well together, noting "this has usually meant twice-a-week meetings just on the Master Plan." She would like to see the Board continue its good working relationship with the Board of Selectmen, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Assessors Office, the Building Inspector, Town Counsel and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

Rene has four goals if re-elected: 1. Implement the Master Plan, beginning with getting the Implementation Advisory Committee and subcommittees going. 2. Get more money for the town through the grant process when it makes sense and supports town efforts. 3. Simplify and update planning board forms. "Many are not clear and are overly cumbersome." 4. Continue to make the board's actions transparent to the community. "The more the community knows about the Planning Board, the easier it will be for them to accomplish their goals," says Rene.

SHEFFIELD FAIR
9/10, 3-7pm to reserve Vendor or Exhibitor space
call Dave Smith at 229-9956

Library Trustee

Term: Three years
Candidates: One—Peter Rowntree
Seats open: One

Peter Rowntree

Peter Rowntree is unopposed for election to the Board of Library Trustees. If elected, it will be his first term.

Peter and his wife, Ellen, purchased their Sheffield house in 1991 as a vacation home. After a decade spent driving here from Westchester County on weekends, Peter became a voting Sheffield resident about five years ago. Ellen retired and followed suit two years later. They have two grown children. He is a registered Democrat.

Peter is a retired lawyer. He joined the Friends of the Bushnell-Sage Library in 1992 and has been an active library supporter ever since. Currently, he is the vice president of the Friends and a member of its Finance Committee as well as the Library Editor of the Sheffield Times. In 2001 he helped found the Sheffield Association, publisher of the Times, and serves as the Association's first President. He is a former member of Sheffield's Conservation Commission and currently is the Vice Chair of Sheffield's Zoning Board of Appeals.

"Thanks chiefly to Library Director Nancy Hahn, the staff, the current trustees and the Friends, our library is clearly one of the best small town libraries in Massachusetts," he said when asked why he wanted to run for the Board. The number of library patrons has increased dramatically, and with computerization, access to books, videos, audiotapes and other resources across the State has increased exponentially. Peter believes library expansion is badly needed, and would like to be part of the process.

Town Moderator

Term: One year
Candidates: One—Bruce Person
Seats open: One

Bruce Person

Bruce Person has served as Sheffield's Town Moderator for the last 14 years.

Born in Meriden, CT, Bruce graduated from the University of Connecticut at Storrs in 1965 and Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 1969. He came to Sheffield in 1971 after serving in the Air Force for two years and has lived here ever since. He established his dental practice in Great Barrington and has been in the same office for the past 32 years. He and his wife, Barbara, who died on August 5, 2004, have two adult sons. He is a registered Republican.

Bruce is a former chairman of the Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee and was recently appointed Town Constable. He is also very involved with the Great Barrington Rotary Club and is chairman of their Scholarship Assistance Fund.

Bruce looks forward to the Town's Annual Meeting and tries to moderate it "in a non-confrontational way," respecting all opinions. "It is my aim," he said, "that everyone goes home a friend."

TOWN ELECTIONS—MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005

VOTE 9AM-7PM IN THE CARLTON FRENCH MEETING ROOM AT TOWN HALL

HOW TO SUPPORT THE SHEFFIELD TIMES YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Submit articles, news items, photos or illustrations

Have an idea for a story? Taken a great picture of an interesting Sheffield scene? Have a new business venture? Let us know! Send suggestions and submissions to the P.O. box or e-mail address below. News briefs can be one or two sentences, short articles between 150 and 450 words. For feature stories, please run suggestions by the editors first.

Tell us about your events

Calendar items should be directed to the attention of the Calendar Editor and include a contact name and number in case there are questions.

Advertise

We accept ads for services and products connected with Sheffield. Eighth-pages to half-pages available. Ad policy is in box below. Contact Tara White at 229-7754 or sheffieldtimes@hotmail.com for rates or more information.

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Sheffield Times
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July/August Deadline: June 15

Place
Stamp
Here

Right-to-Farm by-Law informational Meeting - Thursday, April 28, 2005
7PM, Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall

TOWN MEETING—MONDAY, MAY 2, 2005
7PM, HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, MT. EVERETT REGIONAL SCHOOL

TOWN ELECTIONS—MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005
VOTE 9AM-7PM IN THE CARLTON FRENCH MEETING ROOM AT TOWN HALL

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Address: _____
(where you would like the Sheffield Times sent)

☐ I'd like my contribution to remain anonymous

☐ I'd like to get more involved with the Sheffield Times

☐ I am particularly interested in or have experience with _____

The Sheffield Times is provided free of charge at public distribution sites throughout Sheffield and Ashley Falls. Everyone who makes a donation will receive a copy by mail, so please note on this form if you do not want it sent to you and we won't add to your recycling pile! Donations are tax-deductible through a partnership with Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

This special supplement has been mailed to all addresses in Town by the Sheffield Association—please excuse duplications.

Sheffield TIMES

Community Newsletter for
Sheffield & Ashley Falls, MA
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sheffieldtimes@hotmail.com

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